

Remarks

The Examiner issued an Office Action mailed April 19, 2005 which did not address the merits of the above-identified patent application, but set forth an election requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring applicant to make an election of the invention to be examined. The Examiner divided the claims of the application to eight species as follows:

- I. Claims 88-94 and 115;
- II. Claims 88, 95-98 and 102;
- III. Claims 88, 95 and 99;
- IV. Claims 88, 95, 100 and 104;
- V. Claims 88, 95 and 101;
- VI. Claims 88, 95 and 103;
- VII. Claims 88, 95 and 105;
- VIII. Claims 88, 95, and 106-114.

Applicant hereby elects with traverse the claims of Embodiment VIII (claims 88, 95, and 106-114) for prosecution on the merits.

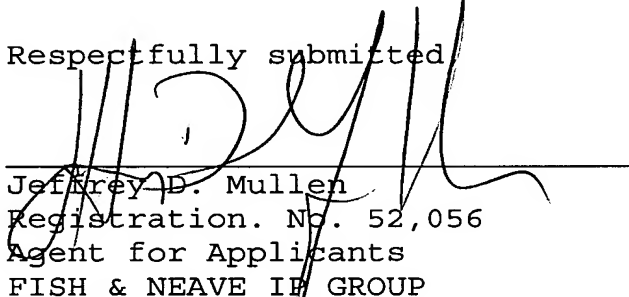
As stated by the Examiner, "claim 88 is generic" (Office Action page 5). It should be noted that if claim 88 is determined to be allowable, then at least dependent claims 89-94 and 115 should be reinstated and also held to be allowable. Furthermore, if claim 95 is determined to be

allowable, then at least dependent claims 96-105 should be reinstated and also held to be allowable.

Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims of Embodiments I-VII in one or more subsequent continuing applications that claim priority and benefit from this application.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted



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